Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Cienfuegosia Drummondii, a rare Texas plant

FREDERICK L. LEWTON

Several years ago, while collecting in western Texas, the writer's attention was attracted by a note in Coulter's Botany of Western Texas in reference to a malvaceous plant, *Fugosia Drummondii* Gray. "Found in Gonzales County many years ago by Drummond, but, so far as known, not since found."

Being engaged in field experiments with cotton for the United States Department of Agriculture, the rarity of this close relative of the cotton plant aroused a desire to discover it again, and during the past four years the plant has been kept in mind and sought for pretty generally throughout southwestern Texas.

Consultation of the United States National Herbarium revealed the fact that the single North American specimen of this plant there preserved was obtained by that indefatigable collector of western plants, A. A. Heller, at Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1894. Of this find he says:

"In rich black land on the edge of a water hole near the Arroyo, Corpus Christi, altitude 40 feet. Very few plants were seen, and only one in flower, but the others in good fruit. Flowers almost two inches in diameter, greenish yellow. Apparently a very rare plant."*

With this clue the writer carefully investigated the locality mentioned in July, 1909, but found no traces of the plant.

A species of *Sida* having leaves closely resembling those of the plant sought was eagerly gathered many times in the belief that the quest was ended, but a closer examination showed that it belonged to the opposite end of the mallow family from that of *Fugosia*.

On June 15, 1910, the four-year search was rewarded by finding several plants of this rare species in flourishing condition in a cotton field belonging to the Coleman-Fulton Pasture Company at Taft, Texas. This is a rapidly developing town in San Patricio County, located on the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway between Sinton, the county seat, and Gregory, the junction with the Rockport branch of the railroad. The first plant found was all but buried in the soil, the field having been cultivated a few days before.

---

*Contr. Herb. Franklin & Marshall College, no. 1: 67. 1895.

This plant was subsequently found to be plentiful at Taft, in the fields, where it can escape the agricultural implements, around the margins of the irrigating tanks, and along the banks of the roadside ditches. Its large sulphur-yellow flowers tinged with green make it a conspicuous object when in bloom.

According to Small* and Heller† this plant is the same as the Brazilian plant described by Saint-Hilaire‡ under the name *Fugosia sulfurea*. Another student of this difficult genus, Hochreutiner, considers the Texan plant a variety of the Brazilian species and in an annotated list of the species of the genus§ labels it *Cienfuegosia sulphurea*, var. *Drummondii.*

The Brazilian species is evidently quite variable, however, and Gürke has described‖ under the name of *Cienfuegosia sulphurea*, var. *glabra*, a variety which appears to be nearer Gray's *Fugosia Drummondii* than the typical *F. sulfurea.* Morong's *no. 929*, collected in Paraguay in February 1891, when compared with the Texas specimen, shows a larger, more erect plant; leaves more nearly round; curved and much shorter peduncles, having fewer, smaller and narrower involucral bracts and bearing smaller flowers, which have a "brown eye at the base inside." ¶

In the opinion of the writer the Texas plant differs from the Brazilian *Cienfuegosia sulfurea* (St. Hil.) Garcke by sufficient characters to warrant the restoration of Gray's specific name. These differences might be contrasted as follows:

---

*Small, J. K. Flora Southeastern United States 777. 1903.

†Heller, A. A. Contr. Herb. Franklin & Marshall Coll. no. 1: 67. 1895.

‡Saint-Hilaire, A. Flora Brasiliae Meridionalis **1**: 252. *pl. 49.* 1825.

§Hochreutiner, B. P. G. Ann. Conserv. et Jard. Bot. Genève **6**: 57. 1902.

‖Gürke, M. Martius, Flora Brasiliensis **12**^{3}: 577. 1892.

¶Morong, T. Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci. **7**: 60. 1892.

C. sulfurea	*C. Drummondii*
Plant pubescent.	Plant glabrous but for a few scattered stellate hairs on younger parts.
Stipules ovate.	Stipules linear-subulate.
Leaves subrotund, subcordate, less than 1 inch long.	Leaves oblong or obovate, 2 inches long.
Peduncles but little longer than the petioles.	Peduncles twice as long as the petioles or more.
Bracts of involucre 5–6, linear, 6–8 mm. long.	Bracts of involucre 8–10, spatulate, 10–20 mm. long.
Flowers with brown or purple center.	Flowers without dark center, greenish yellow throughout.
Style exserted beyond the stamineal tube more than the length of the stamens.	Style but little exserted beyond the stamineal tube.
Capsules 3–4-celled, covered with black tuberculate glands.	Capsules 5- or rarely 4-celled; black glands not conspicuous.
Cells 1-seeded by abortion.	Cells 3–5-seeded.

The name for the Texas plant should thus be **Cienfuegosia Drummondii** (A. Gray) Lewton, comb. nov.

The synonymy is as follows:

Fugosia Drummondii A. Gray, Pl. Wright. **1**: 23. 1852.

Hibiscus Drummondii Kuntze, Rev. Gen. Pl. **1**: 67. 1892.

(?) *Cienfuegosia sulphurea*, var. *glabra* Gürke; Mart. Fl. Bras. **12**^{3}: 577. 1892.

Cienfuegosia sulphurea, var. *Drummondii* Hochreutiner, Ann. Conserv. et Jard. Bot. Genève **7**: 57. 1902.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
WASHINGTON, D. C.